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Gudrun E. Huckett, Patent Agent

Applicant: Hermann Kern et al.
Serial No: 10/708,741
Filed: 3/23/2004
Title: Sealing Ring
Examiner: Alison K. Pickard
Art Unit: 3673

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

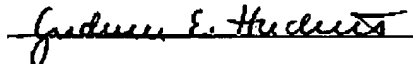
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the office action dated 8/8/2005, Applicant herewith elects the **species 2 - Fig. 3** for further prosecution without traverse. Claims 1, 8, 9, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 read on this species.

Should the Examiner have any further objections or suggestions, the undersigned would appreciate a phone call or e-mail from the examiner to discuss appropriate amendments to place the application into condition for allowance.

Authorization is herewith given to charge any fees or any shortages in any fees required during prosecution of this application and not paid by other means to Patent and Trademark Office deposit account 50-1199.

Respectfully submitted on September 7, 2005,



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